

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**Academic School / Department:** CASS

**Programme:** BA History

**FHEQ Level:** 5

**Course Title:** Centuries of Genocide: A History (TP)

**Course Code:** HST 5700

**Course Leader:** Dominic Alessio

**Student Engagement Hours:** 120 (standard 3- credit BA course)

Lectures: 22.5

Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5

Independent / Guided Learning: 75

**Semester:** Summer

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits  
6 ECTS credits  
3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

The 20th century has been called 'the century of genocide', understood as the attempt to systematically exterminate a whole group of peoples based on their religious, ethnic or national origins. This special 'travelling' course studies the evolution and significance of genocide, from the early twentieth century through to the twenty-first. Beginning with the proto-genocides of the near extermination of First Nation/indigenous peoples by European colonisers, it goes on to examine a wide array of regional and country specific case studies in Europe, Asia and Africa. Students will visit key historical sites in formerly Nazi-occupied Europe and make use of special insights as they explore specific case studies in the context of their locations. It will address key questions such as why genocide occurs and what we can learn from these historical examples to prevent future genocides. Special note: site visits may change subject to availability and faculty expertise.

### **Prerequisites:**

ARW 4195 or GEP 4180 or HST 3100

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- Define the terms ethnic cleaning and genocide
- Critically understand the root causes of genocide

- Study the historical and ideological contexts of genocide
- Identify common elements in a number of case studies
- Learn how to recognize genocide
- Assess the long-term consequences of genocide and the possibilities for redress

**Programme Outcomes:**

5A(i); 5A(iii); 5B(i); 5B (ii); 5B(iii); 5D(i); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the historical, cultural, economic, geographical and political dimensions of genocide
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key texts and debates in genocide studies
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the relevance of the study of genocide
- Demonstrate the ability to make comparisons and connections about genocide across a broad geographical and temporal range
- Demonstrate the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and information about genocide in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written, oral or other forms

**Indicative Content:**

- The significance of genocide
- Defining genocide and ethnic cleansing
- Empire and the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century: S W Africa and Armenia
- A history of the concentration camp and reservation System: Cuba, South Africa, the Philippines and First Nation experiences
- Racism, Nationalism and Fascism
- The Holocaust
- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- The Former Yugoslavia
- Africa: Rwanda and Sudan
- Holocaust Denial

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University *Travelling Programme Assessment Norms* approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee) and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

**Teaching Methodology:**

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures, student presentations, class discussions, and on-site visits as part of the extended travel programme. Themes and links between the literature and locations may be complemented with films and guest lectures where appropriate.

**Bibliography:**

R. Brubaker and D. D. Laitin, 'Ethnic and Nationalist Violence', *Annual Review of Sociology* 24 (1998), 423–52

R. Gellately & B. Kierman (eds.). *The Spectre of Genocide: Mass Murder in Historical Perspective*, Cambridge: CUP, 2003.

M. Levene, *The Rise of the West and the Coming of Genocide. Genocide in the Age of the Nation-State, vol. II*. London, 2005.

A. Lüdtke, 'Explaining Forced Migration', in R. Bessel & C. Haake, *Removing Peoples: Forced Removal in the Modern World*. Oxford, 2009, 16-22.

M. Mann, *The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing*. Cambridge: CUP, 2005

M. Mazower, 'Violence and the State in the Twentieth Century', *The American Historical Review*, Vol. 107, No. 4 (October 2002), 1158-78.

P. Panayi and P. Virdee (eds.), *Refugees and the End of Empire : Imperial Collapse and Forced Migration in the Twentieth Century*. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

A. Rieber, 'Repressive Population Transfers in Central, Eastern and South-eastern Europe: A Historical Overview', in A. Rieber (ed.), *Forced Migration in Central and Eastern Europe, 1939-1950*. Oxford, 2000, 1-27

P. Ther, *The Dark Side of the Nation-States. Ethnic Cleansing in Modern Europe*. London, 2014.

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Indicative Text(s):**

Zygmunt Bauman, *Modernity and the Holocaust*. Ithaca, Cambridge University Press, 1989.

